

36
STOWMARKET, February 23, 1790.

At a very numerous and respectable Meeting of the Friends to the present Establishment in Church and State, held here this Day, to consider of the most effectual Means for supporting our excellent Constitution.

Philip Bowes Broke, Esq. in the Chair.

It is Resolved,

I. That in every well ordered Government, the Interests of the Civil and Ecclesiastical Constitution are inseparably Connected; for as Religion is indispensably requisite to the Ends of Society and Government, the Security and Support of the established Religion must demand the principal Care of the Magistrate.

II. That to promote this Salutary measure, our Forefathers have by several Acts of United Wisdom and Policy, ordained, That every King or Queen succeeding to the Crown of these Realms, together with all Persons who bear any Civil Authority within the same, shall be obliged to declare their Conformity to the Religion of this Country as by Law established.

III. That confining public Employments and Places of Trust to Persons professing the established Religion, is expedient for the public Good; as Justice and Reason naturally point out a preference to those Subjects whose Attachment to the Constitution is perfect and unequivocal, rather than to those who comply in Part only with the Laws of this Country.

IV. That it is the earnest wish of this Meeting, that the Blessings of a full Toleration should be extended to Christians of all Denominations, which Blessings they conceive the Protestant Dissenters in England at this time Enjoy.

V. That although many of the Protestant Dissenters are Men of Moderation, and highly respectable in their individual Situations, yet their repeated Attempts (as a Body) to obtain a Repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts, must be a cause of serious Alarm to all true Friends of the Constitution; as by the Abrogation of those, the Security of the Church and State must be seriously endangered.

VI. That the defence of our excellent Constitution, makes it essentially necessary for us to give our decided Preference to such Candidates at the next Election, as we are convinced are Zealously attached to the present Establishment in Church and State.

VII. That the Thanks of this Meeting be given to the Chairman for his impartial and disinterested Conduct; and that he be requested to sign these Resolutions, and to cause them to be inserted in the London and Country Papers,

PHILIP BOWES BROKE, Chairman.